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Bampton Exhibition Foundation	1-2	Welcome! Welcome to the October issue of the Bampton Beam and thank you to everyone who has sent in articles for this issue. Please check out the web page - an additional resource to keep up-to-date with what is going on in our local community. If you want to send in any news stories before the next issue in January 2026 please email info@bamptonbeam.co.uk so that it can be published on the website: https://www.bamptonbeam.co.uk. The deadline for submitting any articles for inclusion in the next newsletter is Monday, 15 December ready for distribution in the community at the beginning of January.
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Bampton Exhibition Foundation

The Bampton Exhibition Foundation was established as a charitable organisation in 1906. Their main function is maintaining the Old Grammar School building to be fit for educational purposes. To provide income for this they lease the building to other parties. Currently, part is leased to Oxfordshire County Council library services and part is leased to the Bampton Community Archive, for the Vesey Room and Lewington Room. They also receive rent for the garden at the back of the school. Further income is interest from investment in COIF (Charities Investment Fund).



Obviously, the library complies with the requirement for education, as apart from lending books they hold various functions such as book readings with authors, rhyme time for children, assistance with IT, family history research assistance, etc. The Bampton Community Archive have exhibitions on various topics and hold events such as craft demonstrations or workshops, which are also educational.

Deadline for all contributions for the next issue is: 15 December 2025

The Bampton Beam newsletter will be produced four times a year and is available free to all households in Bampton and surrounding villages. Every effort is made to provide accurate information and updates. No responsibility is accepted for any errors. The views expressed do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or the Parish Council who are covering the costs of production. Please send any comments to: info@bamptonbeam.co.uk

A second function, which should be of interest to residents of Bampton, Lew, Aston and Cote, is financial assistance in aspects of education. These can be academic, sports, art, music, etc. It is available to young people up to the age of 25 years, resident in the above locations. Applications are preferably sought from schools and youth organisations for group use. Recent examples of these have been a grant for providing books for a new reading facility in a school and another was for an electronic drum kit for school music lessons. In certain circumstances, however, consideration may be given to individuals.

Applications should be made to the Bursaries Administrator, Marion Dowding, at marion1725@btinternet.com

Bampton Classical Opera

The summer opera by Bampton Classical Opera was widely deemed to be one of the company's most accomplished and enjoyable, delighting large audiences not only in Bampton, but also in Gloucestershire, Sussex and London. This was the company's 32nd season, a statistic which in itself proves the lasting value and high reputation in which it is held across the country. Salieri's comedy *The Landlady*, staged in the Deanery Garden on 18 and 19 July, was composed in 1773 but has only been performed once before in the UK. The weather was kind, and the audiences were cheerfully transported to a 1920s hotel, rich with colour and joy, and enhanced by the stylish costumes of Pauline Smith and Anne Baldwin. Although essentially a farce, like all good comedy there's a serious and at times touching core which was so effectively developed by a superb cast of talented young professionals. Soprano Siân Dicker took the title role of the feminist landlady Mirandolina. Her merciless taunting of the misogynistic and irritatingly brusque Baron (who disdains women totally), and the way she manipulated the vanity and pretensions of her other unwanted admirers, demonstrated Siân's outstanding acting and vocal technique. Her fake faint in Act 2, a mischievous ploy to ensnare the Baron, was one of many notable moments – as Mirandolina declares "The weapons we use to conquer men are many, but the best of all is fainting!"



Once again Bampton's performances led to an extensive folio of press critics' reviews, with several 5 and 4-star designations, and unanimous praise for the quality of all aspects. All the singers have been individually praised as well as conductor Andrew Griffiths and the orchestra (many of our players come from Oxfordshire, although one annually flies down from the Faroe



Islands!). BCO always performs opera in English translation and Gilly French's ingenious way with rhymes again led to much laughter and pleasure for the audience – indeed one critic said "Thanks to the cast's excellent diction, we heard every word of their delightfully corny and Gilbertian revival of this opera – with rhymes so clever they verged on Cole Porter territory. I don't think I've ever enjoyed the text of an opera more than the music before!"

Our warmest thanks go to Mr and Mrs Armitage for again generously lending us their garden for the rehearsals and performances, to St Mary's church for providing further rehearsal space, and

to our numerous volunteers who make it all happen, creating costumes, working backstage and front of house, running the bar, and the many hosts in the village who accommodate our musicians for the performance week. Even with a 'full house', ticket income only covers a third of our costs, and we are indebted to our supportive Friends' organisation (especially those who live locally) and to the Parish Council and the Community Shop for vital grants which help to keep this remarkable enterprise running. In the opera world we are considered something of a national treasure!

Please let us know if you would like to be involved in this hugely enjoyable and worthwhile project – we would welcome new volunteers to help at performance time in a range of support activities. Contact us at mail@bamptonopera.org

Jeremy Gray

The annual St Beornwald-tide Concert

For more than 30 years, Bampton's own somewhat mysterious patron Saint Beornwald has been celebrated in a festive concert by Bampton Classical Opera, on or near his December 'feastday' in the church calendar. For this year's offering, on **Wednesday 17 December**, conductor Andrew Griffiths returns to lead our professional 8-voice ensemble Bampton Classical Voices with another joyous Christmas programme.

Andrew is a versatile and widely respected conductor and singer, with conducting credits including the Royal Opera and many of the leading companies and choirs. He is also a member of the renowned vocal ensemble Stile Antico. The concert will be in the warm acoustic of St Mary's church, starting at 7pm and with a mulled-wine bar open before the concert and during the interval. Look out for posters later in the autumn around the village, or on bamptonopera.org or bamptoncommunityhub.org/events/

Bampton Village Hall

Our Village Hall in Bampton began life as "The Bell Inn", from which the present-day Bell Lane and Bell Cottage take their names. The original building was much smaller than the present building – just the "main room" of the current village hall with a cellar below.

In 1923 the property was purchased by Lady Forester, Ann Bliss and Edith Cobb on behalf of Bampton Women's Institute. The building cost the grand sum of £150!! (According to Google this would be around £11,590 today – so still a bargain with today's property prices!)

Bampton Women's Institute ran the hall for the use of the community: In 1955 Bob Arnold an actor from "The Archers" (if you are under 30 you may need to Google that!) judged a Fancy Dress competition and in the 1960's there were regular baby clinics (think "Call the Midwife!"). There were also pantomimes and, whilst working for BBC Radio Oxford, current Radio 2 DJ Bob Harris, and former presenter of "The Old Grey Whistle Test" (more googling for under 30s!!) presented a sash to May Queen Clair Dryden.



In 1984, it was decided at an open meeting that the WI Hall should become Bampton Village Hall, an independent registered charity run by a management committee made up of representatives from the village and interested organisations.

Later in the 1980's the hall was extended to include the present-day kitchen space, bar, toilets and storage area. More recently the kitchen was refurbished and a new Audio-Visual System put in place to meet the needs of the 21st Century. We even have a Facebook page – search for “Bampton Village Hall”.

Bampton Village Hall is the home of many village clubs including singing, Age UK fitness; Tai Chi, Badminton, ballet, and gardening. It also plays host to many local celebrations and events such as Fairs and Sales, children's parties, and meetings. Please contact us:

ann-bamptonvillagehall@hotmail.com or 07884134035 to discuss a booking.

The Village Hall continues to be run by a management committee of volunteers – we have 4 meetings a year. We'd love more local people to come and join us in preserving the hall for the local community! Contact us via Facebook or using the details above to find out more.

Update from SPAJERS (Society for the Preservation of Ancient Junketing)



SPAJERS Donkey Derby runaway success in the glorious Bank Holiday sunshine. Children aged eight and above and weighing under eight stone rode the donkeys, brought up especially for the occasion from Weston Super Mare! All proceeds fund trips as well as supporting the senior citizens of Bampton.

Visitors tried their hand at a variety of games such as Crockery Smashing, Skittles and the local favourite called

Aunt Sally. A Beer tent, Tea and cakes, BBQ, Children's Games, Craft Tent and Ice Creams were all available to entertain as well satisfy the hungry and hot! Rebecca Holmes who organised this year's event said: “A huge thank you (particularly to the Committee Members and extra volunteers) who helped make the Donkey Derby such a runaway success this year”.



All Aboard!

For a second consecutive year, the Bampton Charity SPAJERS laid on a special day trip for over seventy five pensioners on Wednesday 6th August 2025.

Two coaches ferried the large group to Cheltenham racecourse, where they boarded the Gloucestershire Warwickshire Railway Steam Train.

The charity provided a packed lunch for every passenger and even the wheelchairs were able to board with ease. Joyce Anderson (103 years old) said afterwards : “It was an absolutely marvellous day out, so many memories came back of my childhood days. The sun shone and the view of the countryside as we meandered our way to Broadway Station was quite beautiful”.

Particular thanks go to Keith Messenger who organised the logistics for the trip.



Bampton Gardening Club

17th October: save the date for the next evening meeting of the Gardening Club. We are excited to announce that Anton Blackie, Head Gardener at the luxury hotel Estelle Manor near Eynsham, will be giving a talk 'Horticulture in Hospitality' which features the gardens at the Manor.

Many of you will remember Anton as one of the panel for our very successful Gardeners Question Time event last October, so we are looking forward to welcoming him back to the Club again. The meeting will start at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall.

The Gardening Club held its first ever dahlia show on September 7th courtesy of Ham Court. We had 32 dahlias entered, judged by the national dahlia expert - not as many as we had tulips at the Tulip Show in the spring, but the drought weather had made dahlia growing a bit problematic. Better luck next year. Please plan for growing magnificent dahlias next year.



The AGM has been postponed until March 2026 in order to change the Club's financial year to the 31st December which will allow the membership year to coincide with the financial year. This year only, the financial year will be 18 months long instead of 12 months.



Saturday 4th October will be the next Coffee Morning, which this month will feature the annual Pumpkin Show. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Update on the Community Orchard - the fruit trees we planted have survived the worst drought since 1976. They are all doing well. Our next planting is on Sunday, October 26th when we will be planting 22 more trees including plums, damsons, greengages and pears. If you would like to plant a tree, come to the coffee morning and leave your name. We look forward to your help.

Bampton Branch of the Royal British Legion



We are a thriving Branch led by a small, proactive committee. Over the past 12 months, we have arranged and celebrated VE Day, VJ Day, The Albemarle memorial, attended the SPAJERS Donkey Derby and run a very successful horse racing evening.

Our main meeting place is The Horseshoe pub and we are very well supported by the landlord there, as well as the Community shop, Patrick Strange Butchers and the Co-op.

As a small branch, we are always on the lookout for new members to assist in celebrating events and supporting fundraising for the wider British Legion and local veterans. Our membership remains one of the lowest, with a joining fee of just £22, and there is no requirement to have served or have a direct link to the armed forces.

We would be delighted to welcome you to the Branch; you can use the QR code to join. Please annotate the Branch details when joining BR0728.



Upcoming events:

- 27 October – 9 November – Poppy Appeal: if you have some spare time and can help sell poppies, your help would be very much appreciated by our Poppy Appeal Organiser

- 9 November: Remembrance Sunday: this will be a service at the memorial at 1045 followed by a church service at St Marys, Bampton
- 13 December: Branch Christmas lunch – held in The Bush Club
- 20 December: Santa will visit, starting at approximately 5pm from the Horseshoe, along New Road, Cala and Bampton Meadows, then returning to the village centre
- 15 June 2026: Tower of London – more information to follow



Should you have any questions or want to know more, contact: Bampton.Chairman@rbl.community or Bampton.Secretary@rbl.community

St Mary's Church Bampton



This is Rev Janice Collier the Vicar of St Mary's Bampton, writing to you all. We have all sorts of events happening this autumn and running up to Christmas that I thought you might like to know about!

Sunday 12th October Harvest Festival is 10.45am for the Traditional service with organ and choir, and 4pm for informal family friendly Harvest Celebration. If you would like to bring some tinned, dried food, toiletries that will be going to The Besom, a charity in Witney.

Sunday 2nd November at 6.30pm we would like to invite you to "Remember with Love" a time to

remember those who we love but see no longer, hymns, readings and an opportunity to light a candle as we remember our loved ones who have died.

Regular events sometimes involve eating together!

Men's breakfast at Bampton Coffee House from 9am on Saturdays 11th October, 8th November, 13th December. All welcome, just some blokes having some breakfast and a chat.

Ladies Lunch at Bampton Garden Centre café 12.15pm on Thursdays 9th October, 13th November, 11th December. All welcome! Just some ladies having some lunch and a chat.

Christmas is coming...

Carol Services across the Parish are:

- Wednesday 17th December 7pm at Lew Church
- Thursday 18th December 6.30pm at Clanfield Church
- Sunday 21st December 6.30pm at Bampton Church, 9 Lessons and Carols.
- Wednesday 24th December at Aston Church 6pm

Christmas Eve 24th December

- 3pm Bampton church "Welcome to Christmas" relaxed family friendly service, carols, story, dressing up as Nativity characters (for those who would like to)
- 6pm Aston Carols Service
- 9.30pm at Clanfield Holy Communion for Christmas
- 9.30pm at Bampton Church Holy Communion for Christmas.

Christmas Day

- 8am Bampton Holy Communion BCP
- 9.30am Aston Family Communion
- 10.45 Bampton Family Service, bring any presents you would like to show us please, the Vicar is very nosy!

Sunday 28th December, just one service across the Parish at **Lew Church 10.30am**

St Mary's Flower Guild

Every year St Mary's Flower Guild welcomes Autumn with arrangements in the Church to celebrate Harvest Festival.

We aim to be inclusive by not only providing wonderful flowers in the Church for the congregation and visitors to enjoy but also local produce which we hope people will take home and enjoy.

We are seeking donations from the generous Bampton residents of root vegetables, hard fruit, nuts etc to be included with the arrangements.

If you would like to contribute towards Harvest Festival, please bring your offerings to the Church on **10th October before 5pm**



Bampton Singers Christmas Concert

Friday, 12th December

Bampton Village Hall

Door and bar open 7pm

Concert 7.30

**Tickets £8 (cash) from Bampton Community Shop
from mid-November**

Also singing at

Bampton Garden Plants

28th November at 5pm

and in the Market Square

for the Christmas tree lights switch on

Burford and Kingham Rotary Club



We are often asked: "What does Rotary actually do?" Rotary is one of the biggest charitable organisations in the world with over 1.2million members. It started in 1905 with 4 members!

Burford and Kingham club started in 1983, and we continue today to provide volunteer and charitable help to individuals, groups and charities locally, nationally and internationally. We do this by giving our time to plan and run fund-raising events and to help other organisations to run theirs. Recently, we have supported Bridewell Gardens, Medical Detection Dogs, SeeSaw, End Polio Now and the Royal British Legion. Rotary is a great example of how effective a group of people can be when we get together to help others, while

having fun and enjoying fellowship. There are no peculiar requirements to membership and no

ongoing tests of loyalty; there is a small financial cost, but no requirement to donate from your own pocket.

We are always keen to hear from you to discuss how Rotary works and how you can bring your knowledge and abilities to help our small club provide assistance to those who need it. Please get in touch with our secretary John if you think you can help – there's no commitment to join – you can just help out at our events to get an idea how of it all works!

Below are two examples of the biggest programmes which Rotary International has been involved in. Most donations our club provide go to local and UK charities.



Mercy Ships: In 2020, Rotary world-wide donated \$1.125million to fund training of healthcare professionals volunteering to work on board Mercy Ships.

<https://magazine.rotarygbi.org/rotary-mercy-ships-june-2025>

Polio: Rotary began the Polio vaccination programme in 1989 when there were 1000 cases every day across 125 countries. With continued vaccination since then, and with help in recent years from The Gates Foundation and The World Health Organisation, the incidence has decreased by 99.9% - with only 291 cases in two countries in the period Jan 24-June 25.

<https://www.rotarygbi.org/our-causes/end-polio-now/>

Secretary: burfordandkinghamsecretary@gmail.com

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/burfordkinghamrotary> Web: www.burfordkinghamrotary.club

Clanfield and Bampton Historical Society

Our meetings are held in the Carter Institute, Main Street, Clanfield at 7.30pm (unless previously advised), on the third Tuesday of the month. Liquid refreshments /glass of wine available.

Here are details of meetings for the 2025-26 season:

- **Rosemary Honour Smith: Further aspects of the village of Clanfield**
Tuesday, October 21st 2025
Rosemary will challenge us to remember faces and places and to give them some names. Please feel free to bring your own pictures for identification. And, if we run out of time, we may have to do it all over again Please be warned: it was standing room only for Rosemary's last talk.
- **The Rev'd Canon Andrew Wright: 'Fishers, seafarers and us; yesterday and today'**
Tuesday, November 18th November 2025
Andrew has led such a very busy life but has come ashore to Bampton. He served as Secretary General to the Mission to Seafarers for more than a decade after educational chaplaincy and Anglican parish priest. Andrew is now chaplain to a Fred Olsen ship where he offers care to crew and passengers alike.
- **Don Rouse: what more can I say? 'Barn dancing, shirt races ...!'**
Tuesday, February 17th 2026
Don promises to tell a few stories about his activities of yore of which there were numerous - and humorous. He is launching his book in September 2025 so perhaps he will bring a few along. Don is not to be missed.
- **Alistair Wray: Water, Wells and Waste in Bampton, Clanfield and Everywhere Else!**
Tuesday, March 17th 2026
Alistair will base his talk upon his publication and exhibition, in collaboration with Paul Ader, of 2024. There is reference made to Clanfield where the water of July 2007 is often discussed ...
- **Sandra Millikin: 'A gentle walk about Uffington'**
Tuesday, April 21st 2026
Sandy was born in America but has lived in Uffington since 1971. She is a freelance architectural lecturer as well as a very keen bridge and croquet player. She hopes to guide you around her village so that you can follow up the evening with your very own stroll!

- **David Palfreyman, OBE: 'The clubs of St James'**

Wednesday, May 20th 2026 at 7.30pm PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DAY

As you will remember from other evenings when David Palfreyman has entertained us, we switch to a Wednesday- or we cannot have him! David will base his delivery around his book of London clubs and their extensive history.

- **AGM - and Robin Shuckburgh: Topic to be confirmed but probably very amusing.**

Tuesday, June 16th 2026

We will hold a brief AGM and then Robin will launch a topic, or three, connected to local activity. We will have soft drinks and wine, and some delicious bits - to keep the wolf from the door. Friends most welcome!

Annual Membership £25

Guests are most welcome at all meetings: £5.00 entrance fee

Any enquiries please telephone Sue Mattingley (Chairman) on 01367 810 788

Bampton Badminton Club

Bampton Badminton Club takes place on Tuesday mornings from 10 am to 12 noon in term time only in the Village Hall. We would like to encourage some new members, male and female who would like to enjoy a game of badminton with our current members.

If you haven't played before we can teach you and there is even a cup of coffee at half time!

Please contact me 07971 686877 if you would like more information or pop in on a session and have a chat.

You don't have to live in Bampton to play. We can loan a racket if you don't have one and there is a small cost of £3 per session which goes towards the cost of the hall and includes the coffee.

Diana O'Brien



Bampton Doughnut Economics Group

A 'Making Connections' event was organised by volunteers from Bampton's Doughnut Economics Group, Oxfordshire Doughnut Economic Collective and Burford BEAGles. Rosie Pearson generously provided the stunning Asthall Manor venue for the event, Burford BEAGles contributed funds toward the costs of the day and local caterers Nutmeg and Thyme provided a delicious lunch.



Several dozen representatives from around West Oxfordshire and beyond met to discuss how best to connect and collaborate so that all people can thrive, while respecting our planet which sustains us. It was a lively day with lots of interactions and connections.

Using the framework of Doughnut Economics, which promotes regenerative and distributive design for thriving communities and a sustainable world, the aim of the day was to foster connections and consider how we can balance human needs with planetary health.

In Doughnut Economics, the outer circle of the Doughnut represents the 'ecological ceiling' – the nine planetary boundaries which are thresholds for critical Earth system processes. We need to stay within these boundaries to maintain a stable and resilient planet. Unfortunately, we are already breaching almost all of them, and we are witnessing the consequences. For example, excess

greenhouse gases are leading to extreme weather events, rising sea levels and disruptions to ecosystems.

The inner circle of the Doughnut represents the social foundations – everyone needs to have access to a home, food, water, energy, health, education, income and work, equality, a voice, justice and peace. However, pockets of deprivation exist across Oxfordshire which can be masked by the relative affluence of a significant proportion of rural communities. Rising levels of poverty, coupled with increasing prices and already expensive housing stock, will lead to significant difficulties for residents.

Participants were invited to explore what it might be like to live within the doughnut; in the safe and just space for humanity, with a regenerative and distributive economy maintaining a stable and resilient planet.

These participants are keen to continue to take the momentum fuelled throughout the day and continue to work toward positive change. A 'Making Connections' network has been started because of this event, and there will be similar events hosted in locations across

Oxfordshire. Initial ones are likely to include Burford and Carterton, Witney, Banbury, Wantage, and Oxford City. There has also been a request to go to Stratford!

If you would like to get involved with the local Bampton Doughnut Economics group, please get in touch and we can let you know the date of our next get together. Email: bamptondegroupp@gmail.com



Bampton Pub Earns Spot in Telegraph's '500 Best Pubs' List

Bampton may be a small village, but it boasts no shortage of fine hostelrys. Residents and visitors alike can choose between four well-regarded establishments: The Horse Shoe, The Talbot Hotel, The Market Tavern with its restaurant and rooms, and The Morris Clown.

Once again, The Morris Clown has earned national recognition, securing a place in *The Telegraph's* prestigious '500 Best Pubs in England' list. The accolade adds to its longstanding presence in the CAMRA Good Beer Guide, where it has become something of a fixture.

Described as an 'excellent single-bar pub run by Landlord Steve Mace for many years and much-cherished by the community'.. Both pub and publican have become deeply rooted in the community, with locals warmly debating whether the term 'much-cherished' applies more to the inn itself or to the man behind the bar. For Bampton, the award reaffirms the village's reputation as a destination for good ale, good food, and a welcoming atmosphere.



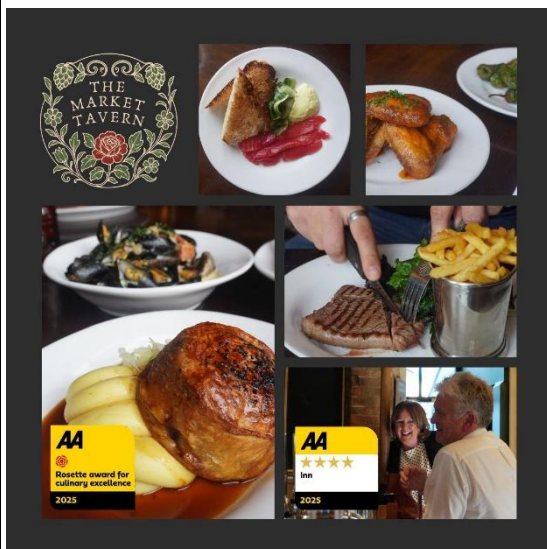
[The 500 best pubs in England](#)

The Market Tavern celebrates prestigious awards

It has been an exciting few weeks at The Market Tavern, and we are delighted to share some wonderful news: We have been awarded an AA Rosette for culinary excellence along with 4 AA Gold Stars for our bedrooms.

We are so proud of this achievement. For us, these awards are not only about outstanding food and beautiful rooms, but about the whole experience from the moment a guest walks through our doors. We are passionate about creating a pub that feels warm and welcoming, a place people want to return to time and again. None of this would be possible without our brilliant team,

whose hard work has helped us bring the dream to life. The reviews speak for themselves, with guests consistently praising the team, thank you guys!



We also want to say a heartfelt thank you to our locals, loyal regulars, and the wider community. Your encouragement, feedback, and ongoing support mean the world to us.

While we celebrate our awards, we are also excited to share a packed autumn calendar of events and promotions:

£20 Steak Night - Every Tuesday Enjoy our Market Tavern steak served with a small glass of house wine or a pint for just £20.

20% Off Drinks Happy Hour - Wednesday to Friday, 4pm to 6pm Take a well earned mid-week break or start your weekend early with 20% off ALL drinks.

Christmas and New Year's Eve Bookings We are already taking reservations for the festive season and New Year's Eve. Prime dates are filling quickly, so we encourage you to book early to avoid missing out. Online bookings are available for up to 7 guests, and for larger groups please get in touch with us directly.

Live Music Our much loved Blues Night continues on the first Monday of every month. The Market Stage also returns on Thursday 16th October with a fantastic live band, buzzing atmosphere, and free entry.

We are excited for the months ahead. With award-winning food, a new autumn menu, Festive menu launching and stylish bedrooms, The Market Tavern is going from strength to strength.

Our team cannot wait to welcome you!

T. 01993 223160 E. hello@themarkettavernbampton.com

W. www.themarkettavernbampton.com

Magpie Lane Folk Band



Mat Green, Squire of the Bampton Morris (Morris Clown) is also a member of the folk band Magpie Lane.

The band perform traditional English music and song combining powerful vocals with vigorous dance tunes - inventive arrangements on acoustic instruments. Magpie Lane appear regularly at top national festivals - including Sidmouth, Towersey, Fylde and Chippenham - and have recorded ten critically acclaimed CDs.

For over thirty years they have put on an annual Christmas Concert in Oxford. They will be playing traditional folk carols and wassails, secular songs and tunes for Christmas, winter and the turn of the year.

If you would like more information or want to purchase some tickets, please visit their website:

www.magpielane.co.uk

Magpie Lane Annual Christmas Concert in Oxford

Saturday, 13th December 2pm
Wesley Memorial Methodist Church
New Inn Hall Street
Oxford OX1 2DH

Funnybones Comedy Store live in Bampton

'Four hilarious acts, one epic night. Big laughs, bold punchlines, and the funniest evening of the year!'

On Friday, 7 November 2025 the Funnybones Comedy Store will be live in Bampton. Doors open at 6:30pm and the show will start at 8pm to 10pm. It is being held at Bampton Village Hall, Market Square, Bampton OX18 2JH.

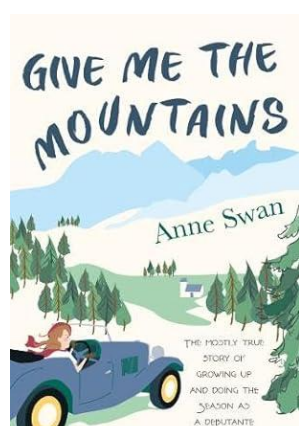
Headlining the show is El Baldiniho, a magician and prop comedian as seen on Britain's Got Talent and TNT Sports. He regularly headlines comedy clubs around the UK with his unique brand of comedy.

Opening the show is the hilarious Caroline Mabey who is one of the most inventive comic voices in Britain. Caroline is a fringe and circuit favourite, appearing at festivals, theatres and clubs all around the country. She is a brilliant and accomplished MC, having been resident compere at the 99 Club for ten years.



[FUNNYBONES COMEDY STORE live in Bampton Tickets, Fri 7 Nov 2025 at 20:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Give Me the Mountains: the mostly true story of growing up and doing the Season as a debutante



A local author, using the pen name Anne Swan, has written a book based in the 1940s, published in June 2025.

Her own childhood was idyllic, with dogs and ponies, happy schools and holidays abroad. Her work as a secretary both in the UK and overseas was interesting and enjoyable. She was happily married and is also a pianist and composer.

Three generations of women share their stories. The youngest of them is being prepared for a good marriage. She navigates life at a country boarding school. She takes lessons on deportment at a prestigious finishing school and gets ready to be launched onto the marriage market as an elegant debutante. Determined and independent, this young woman wants a different life, but can she follow her own path and find freedom?

Publisher: Crumps Barn Studio **ISBN:** 978-1-915067-60-9 **Format:** Paperback

Upcoming Events

FREE Art Sessions for 6 weeks Ages 8-11yrs Mondays 5-6pm 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th November, 1st and 8th December **BOOKING ESSENTIAL** Bampton Library, Church View, Bampton, OX18 2NE Tel: 01865 815100

Free Digital Information Afternoon Monday 13th October, 2.30pm-4pm at Bampton Library. Age UK's Digital Outreach worker will be there to help and assist you. Please remember to bring your devices with you on the day. To book your place, please contact the library on 01865 815 100



For more details of upcoming talks, workshops, events and exhibitions, or for a selection of local clubs and groups that you can join or volunteer for in and around Bampton, please visit Bampton's Community Hub website: <https://bamptoncommunityhub.org>